

On the Go Newsletter

November 2010

Commission on Latino Affairs presents the 2010 Latino Ambassador and Mary Campos Awards

The Commission of Latino Affairs presented the 2010 Robert D. Ray Iowa Latino Ambassador Award and the Mary Campos Award at the 12th Annual Iowa Latino Conference at West High School in Iowa City on October 16, 2010.



Latino Ambassador Award Recipient: Claudia Schabel

She was voted President of ALIANZA Latino Business Association, and serves or has served as Vice President of Drake Neighborhood Association, Vice President of Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship committee, and as an at-large board member of Rebuilding Together of Greater Des Moines, amongst other committees where she volunteers her free time. Schabel, from Brazil, earned her undergraduate degree in International Relations from Drake University.

Mary Campos Award Recipient: Organizers of the IA Latino Conference

Founded in 1998, the "Strengthening and Valuing Latin@ Communities in Iowa" conference strives to create a welcoming environment for people to come together to share stories and strategies to celebrate and strengthen Latin@ communities in Iowa. The "Iowa Latino Conference," as it is known, has become a cherished gathering of Latinos and non-Latinos as a place to share knowledge, build skills, and enjoy community. The conference is sponsored by The University of Iowa School of Social Work and is organized by a statewide planning committee; literally hundreds of volunteers have served as planners, presenters, hosts, and on-site coordinators since the conference's inception.

Community Announcements & Services

- [Iowa: Hispanic Parents of Children with Special Needs](#)
- [12 Hour Drinking Driver Education Classes](#)
- [Nuevo Trabajo: Sus Derechos y Deberes](#) Comic Book
- [Bankers Trust Launches Spanish Website](#)

News

- [USHLI New Civic Education Program Goes Online](#)
- [How Health Reform Helps Communities of Color](#)
- [Illegal Immigration Backlash Worries, Divides Latinos](#)
- [At Ropes End: Single Women Mothers, Wealth & Assets in the United States](#)
- [Census Bureau Announces Final Mail Participation Results](#)

Mortgage Resources

- ["Iowa Mortgage Help" Can Help Homeowners Struggling with Mortgage \(1-877-622-4866\)](#)

Did You Know Polk County is now in the ICE Secure Communities program?

Secure Communities, an Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) program established under a partnership between the US Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice was developed to identify and remove the most dangerous undocumented individuals. The program became effective in Polk County on August 31st, 2010. This program is intended to prioritize the level of crime, and share information between FBI and ICE, and between the federal government and local law enforcement agencies.

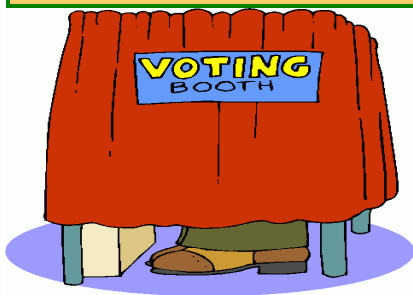
While Polk County currently is the only Iowa county participating in the Secure Communities program, the federal government plans to have the program active across the state and nation by the end of 2013.

The federal government has made it clear that state or local approval is not needed for the program to be implemented, as the only significant difference from current practice is that two federal agencies (ICE and FBI) will share information about criminal arrestees. Though state or local approval is not required, ICE has encouraged each state to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that specifies how information is to be transferred, what information will be transferred, how it will be used by ICE, and how such information will be transmitted back to the law enforcement agency that booked the individual. The standard MOA was signed by ICE and the Iowa Department of Public Safety before the program was implemented in Polk County.

To be continued on page 2.

Upcoming Community Events

- Iowa Culture and Language Conference, November 1-3
- Iowa Youth Congress Annual Session, November 12—13
- Harvesting Dignity in Midwestern Fields & Factories: Understanding & Defending Immigrant Workers' Rights on the Job, November 13
- Parenting Teens Class, November 13
- Preventing Cancer in the Latino Community: Clinical Trials, November 18
- Different Colors of Violence Conference XI, December 16-17



Did You Know Polk County is now in the ICE Secured Communities Program? continued from Page 1

John Quinn, Director of the DPS Division of Criminal Investigation, wants people to know that this program should not jeopardize the ability of Iowa law enforcement agencies to protect and serve all people in Iowa. The program does not provide authority for Iowa officers to enforce federal immigration law. It also does not obligate Iowa officers to attempt to determine citizenship or immigration status when assisting an individual, making a traffic stop, conducting an investigation, or otherwise interacting with the public. In fact, the program does not change anything that a state or local police officer does in the course of their duties. Instead, the automated exchange of data that occurs under this program is only triggered after a person is arrested and fingerprinted for a criminal offense. When this occurs, prints are submitted from a local agency, through the state, to the federal government.

The main difference between longstanding procedures and this new program is that instead of arrestee fingerprints being checked against existing FBI criminal history databases, the prints will also be compared to ICE immigration data to determine if a person has already been fingerprinted in relation to an immigration matter. The comparison of prints is not limited to persons who are suspected of being present in the United States without legal documentation. Prints comparison will be applied uniformly to every arrestee. Given that the data comparison is applied only after arrest and booking, this program is considered a reactive approach to criminal non-citizens identification and removal, with emphasis placed on the most serious, violent offenders, and it is not considered a proactive effort to identify and apprehend persons who are not legally present in the United States.

Anyone incarcerated at the Polk County jail and their families could be impacted by this program. "ICE will focus initially on identifying criminal aliens charged with or convicted of a Level 1 offense which includes: threats to national security, homicide, kidnapping, sexual assault, robbery, assault, and drug offenses" (Secure Communities PowerPoint Presentation, 2010). When a person in custody for a Level 2 or 3 offense is matched against DHS records, the appropriate ICE field office will determine if a person is removable and, based on the circumstances, may initiate removal proceedings.

For additional information on Secured Communities visit www.ice.gov/secure_communities.

Group Pushes Iowa City as 'sanctuary city'

A group pushing for Iowa City to become the state's first sanctuary city for illegal immigrants will have the police chief and at least one City Council member in their corner when officials take up the issue.

The Rev. Rudolph Juarez, pastor at St. Patrick Catholic Church and a member of a local group called the Sanctuary City Committee, is asking the council to adopt an ordinance that would ensure that enforcement of immigration is done at the federal level rather than the local level. Juarez said that with a sanctuary law, people living in Iowa City, regardless of their immigration status, would be protected if they were to contact authorities as the victim of a crime or witness to a crime.

"We certainly are not advocating the breaking of any laws," Juarez said. "We're not advocating for an open invitation to criminals. We're talking about purely civil and human rights."

The council on Monday agreed to put the topic on the agenda of a future session, and its members likely will have a discussion about it sometime next year. Police Chief Sam Hargadine and City Council member Terry Dickens said they were leery about the idea until sitting down to talk with Juarez. Now they support the proposal. Hargadine said it is important that victims feel comfortable coming forward to police without fear of being deported. Once an illegal immigrant commits a crime, however, Hargadine said there would be no protections for that person.

"That's the misconception with a sanctuary city, that it's a haven for criminals, and that's not the case," Hargadine said. Hargadine said it would not change how his officers operate. When reviewing tapes of traffic stops, for instance, he has never heard an officer ask about a person's nationality, he said. Bob Anderson, chairman for the Johnson County Republican Central Committee, said overlooking immigration laws would go against his party's beliefs. "We believe that we are a great melting pot, and we encourage that," Anderson said. "But we believe in individuals going through the citizenship process. Anything that shades that in a different light, we don't believe that is in the best interest of the country." Dickens said that initially, he didn't want to handcuff the police department with a new law, but after talking with Hargadine, he became a supporter, too. "If you are an undocumented person and a crime has been committed against you and you're afraid to come forward, that isn't right," Dickens said. "You should be able to feel safe."

Mayor Matt Hayek said he is waiting to hear from the city attorney on the issue before discussing it publicly. "It doesn't involve taking a position on a federal issue, which is not normally something municipalities do," Hayek said.

Councilwoman Regenia Bailey supports the council taking a closer look at the idea at a future meeting. "I certainly want to think there are members living in our community that would be reluctant to call law enforcement when something serious is going on because of concerns of how they would be treated, whether they would be documented or undocumented," Bailey said.

Drop the I - Word

ColorLines is excited to announce the launch of Drop the I-Word, a national public education campaign focused on eradicating the racial slur "illegals" from media use and public discourse.

The i-word is a damaging term that divides and dehumanizes communities and is used to discriminate against immigrants and people of color. It is shorthand for "illegal alien," "illegal immigrant" and other racially charged terms.

This campaign is an extension of the work of the Applied Research Center and ColorLines.com, to popularize racial justice and give people the tools they need to make structural changes together. This is a cross-generational, multiracial initiative aimed at raising the public awareness of, and commitment to, human rights, dignity and racial justice for all people.

We can stop unintentionally fueling racial profiling and violence directed toward immigrants when we Drop the I-Word as a designation for our neighbors, children and families. We can encourage others to uphold the same human values and professional journalistic standards.

Take the pledge to stop using the i-word and ask media to do the same.

Federal Court Finds Arpaio's Jails to be Unconstitutional

Sheriff Joe Arpaio of Maricopa County, Ariz. is required to abide by a federal district court order mandating that he fix unconstitutional conditions in the Maricopa County Jail that jeopardize the health and safety of prisoners, a federal appellate court ruled today.

A three-judge panel of the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously ordered Arpaio to follow U.S. District Court Judge Neil Wake's 2008 ruling, which required Arpaio to end severe overcrowding and ensure all detainees receive necessary medical and mental health care, be given uninterrupted access to all medications prescribed by correctional medical staff, be given access to exercise and to sinks, toilets, toilet paper and soap and be served food that meets or exceeds the U.S. Department of Agriculture's dietary guidelines.

"Today's ruling is further confirmation that even a man who likes to brag about being the toughest sheriff in the nation has to follow the U.S. Constitution," said Margaret Winter, Associate Director of the ACLU National Prison Project and lead counsel for the detainees. "Sheriff Arpaio's unconscionable treatment of the thousands of pre-trial detainees in his custody has gone on far too long."

The ACLU went to trial against Arpaio in August 2008 arguing that deteriorating conditions within each of the jail's five facilities that house pre-trial detainees – people who have been arrested but not yet tried or convicted – necessitate federal court oversight to ensure that Arpaio and other county officials maintain safe and humane conditions and provide the thousands of detainees held there basic levels of medical and mental health care.

The ACLU proved at the 2008 trial that the sheriff routinely abused pre-trial detainees at Maricopa County Jail by feeding them moldy bread, rotten fruit and other contaminated food, housing them in cells so hot as to endanger their health, denying them care for serious medical and mental health needs and keeping them packed as tightly as sardines in holding cells for days at a time during intake.

A copy of today ruling is available online at: www.aclu.org/prisoners-rights/graves-et-al-v-arpaio-et-al-opinion via Ninth Circuit Court Of Appeals Orders Sheriff Arpaio To Fix Unconstitutional Conditions In Maricopa County Jail | American Civil Liberties Union.

Immigration Resources

- Giving Facts a Fighting Chance: Answers to the Toughest Immigration Questions
- Reforming America's Immigration Law: A Woman's Struggle
- Immigrant Women in the U.S.: A Portrait of Demographic Diversity
- Greenwash: Nativists, Environmentalism and the Hypocrisy of Hate
- Jailed without Justice



Don't forget to Vote!

Today, November 2, 2010



What is the Iowa Youth Congress?

The Iowa Youth Congress is a civic leadership development opportunity for Iowa high school students with an emphasis on the recruitment of students of color. The program reached out through regional meetings to teach students about developing policy issues from grassroots ideas, collaborating across diverse populations, and contributing to public life. The IYC culminates in a Mock General Assembly for 100 students, who prioritize their issues and debate various points of view.

Words from a Former Member

The program put me around other minorities who also had plans to further their education...

I realized I wasn't alone! And that played a huge role in my feelings towards higher education.

The chance to really speak my mind and express how I felt about different topics was just great.

[It] made me feel like I was really someone.

- Cesar Pelaez



Students participate in the 4th Annual Session in the Iowa House Chamber, November 2009.

Come Witness the Iowa Youth Congress in Action!

Annual Event

The Iowa Youth Congress will be celebrating their 5th Annual Iowa Youth Congress Session in Des Moines on November 12-13, 2010.

November 12, 2010

8:30am-4:00pm: 5th Annual Session at the Iowa State Capitol House Chambers

- Students are welcomed by members of the Iowa General Assembly; meet in committees to discuss issues; debate issues in House Chambers; vote on top three issues to present to the Iowa General Assembly this coming session.

6:30pm-8:00pm: 4th Annual Dream Forward Dinner, Holiday Inn Downtown

- The Dream Forward Dinner recognizes the work accomplished by the Iowa Youth Congress and the program sponsors. This years keynote speaker is Sukriti Nayer, the first President of the Iowa Youth Congress. Sukriti will speak on her experience and how that experience has helped her prepare for her future.

November 13, 2010

9:00am-2:00pm: Planning Session at Des Moines Diocese

- Congress meets by region, where they will have the opportunity to practice advocating for their bills to the Iowa General Assembly and the state. Students will learn to propose their bills, gain community support and determine necessary criteria to move these issues forward.

For more information visit website below or contact the Office of Latino Affairs, an Office in the Iowa Department of Human Rights.

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Iowa Office of Latino Affairs: On the Go newsletter is sent monthly with up-to-date information on the agency, activities and upcoming events to keep our constituents informed. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

The Office of Latino Affairs is legislatively mandated to promote and advocate for Iowa Latinos.

Commission on Latino Affairs Logo Contest

The Commission on Latino Affairs would like help creating its logo.

This logo will be used on the Commission's page and all materials created by the commission. The commission will be accepting logos until 4PM Tuesday, November 30th, 2010. Once all logos have been received they will be placed on the Office of Latino Affairs website for two weeks so the public can vote. The logo with the most votes will be selected to become the Commission of Latino Affairs Official logo.

For more information contact Melissa Esquivel via e-mail melissa.esquivel@iowa.gov or (515) 281-4080.

Other Resources

- [Patient Healthcare Handouts in various languages](#)
- [New Health-Care Reform Spanish Information](#)
- [Justice Not Politics](#)
- [Restore Fairness](#)
- [Polk County Transition Resource Guide](#)
- [List of Interest for Assisted Living Resources & Related Links](#)

Welcome Sara Schoneberg, AmeriCorps

The Office of Latino Affairs and the Department of Human Rights welcomes Sara Schoneberg as our, new AmeriCorps worker. Sara will be working primarily with the Office of Latino Affairs as the Youth Program



Coordinator of the Iowa Youth Congress. Born and raised in Des Moines, Sara graduated from Drake University in 2009 with a degree in Politics and International Relations. In the last year she lived in Chengde, China teaching English to college students.

Clínica Móvil de la Salud de PROTEUS

Lugar: **Centro HOLA**

618 E 18th St
Des Moines, IA 50316
Tel: (515) 299-4652

Hora: **10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

Fecha: el **1, 15, y 29 de Noviembre, 2010**

Para obtener más información acerca de nuestra clínica llamar o escribir al siguiente teléfono o correo electrónico:
515-271-5303
DanielZ@proteusinc.net



2010 Flu Shots

The HOLA Center will have flu shots on the following date:

- November 18th, 5:30-7:30 PM
- December 16th, 5:30-7:30 PM

Suggested donation is \$15. No one will be turned away for inability to pay. Bring your Medicare card, Medicaid or insurance card as some insurance policies will cover the cost. Shots provided by Polk County and the Visiting Nurse Services.